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"Another bit of information possibly worth knowing is that the only way to get to Ankara from Istanbul is by DC-3's of the Turkish Airline or by train. The planes operate only under fully contact conditions with the result that an interruption of some days may occur in the service. In addition to that, some people are hesitant to fly with this line because, aside from the non-instrument aspects in a terrain that is essentially mountainous, the maintenance is allegedly alarmingly substandard. I was advised that three fatal accidents in a series last year resulted from faulty maintenance. The only remaining way, therefore, to reach Ankara is by train but in this connection there is a most peculiar situation. The reservations on the train are frequently sold out for days in advance. Despite the shortage they do not add extra trains or cars. I encountered exactly this difficulty in coming here and, although I was fortuitously able to obtain one stray compartment of Cook's, the trains were fully sold out for the ensuing six days. Similarly in returning now to Istanbul, although application was made well in advance, it was still necessary to travel one day later than planned."

- end -

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